

MACKEY

FOR • THE • TOURIST

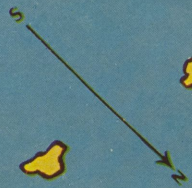
QUEENSLAND





TOURIST MAP
OF
MACKAY
AND DISTRICT
Queensland
(NOT DRAWN TO SCALE)

ROADS
RAILWAYS



PACIFIC
OCEAN

ALONG THE GOLDEN LITTORAL



Coconut palms on bank of Pioneer River, Mackay

MACKAY, with its picturesque hinterland and island-festooned seaboard, offers unbounded attractions to holiday-makers. Situated well within the Tropics, the city and district possess singular beauty and charm of scenery.

Winter months in this Northern region, with caressing sunshine pouring out of bright blue skies and suffusing shore and summit, are truly idyllic. Inland through Pioneer Valley are the cool green heights of Eungella Range. North and south of Mackay are pretty districts besieged by surging sugar-cane plantations. Along the seafront for some 30 miles is a string of appealing resorts, and thronging islands form an enchanted waterway north through the Cumberland and Whitsunday groups to Bowen.

Mackay, situated on the Pioneer River, 598 miles north of Brisbane, is a thriving city with a population of 12,000. Modern shops, substantial business houses, newly-erected hotels and public buildings, and attractive residences indicate the prosperity of the city and district.

Sugar-growing is the principal industry, although dairying, timber-getting, and tobacco-growing are also of importance. Annual returns from sugar-cane average about £2,000,000, the greater part of which circulates in the district, comprising 32,000 people. About 3 miles from the city an outer harbour has been built to accommodate ocean-going liners.

Sarina, centre of the power alcohol industry, is a little to the south. Proserpine, to the north, is also a fertile sugar-growing area. Visitors to Day Dream (West Molle), Hayman, South Molle, and Long Islands detrain at Proserpine.

Sugar-growing commenced in the Mackay District in the late 'sixties (the Pioneer River was discovered by Captain John Mackay in 1860), and the first mill began crushing in 1868. This district soon assumed a leading place in the cane-sugar production of the State, and Mackay became known as the "sugaropolis."

The district also saw the creation of central mills, the building of which was assisted by Government grants. The object of these mills was to crush cane grown by white labour only.



Left: Sydney Street, Mackay, showing Post-Office, Town Hall, River Street, War Memorial, Mackay

Right: Customs House, Mackay

THIS could not be put into immediate effect, but they paved the way for the elimination of coloured labour and for the establishment of purely co-operative mills, which to-day crush the greater part of the Queensland cane crop.

The sugar is manufactured by seven mills—Farleigh, Racecourse, Pleystowe, Marian, Cattle Creek, North Eton, and Plane Creek. The cane is produced under natural rainfall conditions, with an annual average of about 60 inches; there are few facilities for irrigation. Production is based entirely upon a small farm system, the average area planted to cane being some 40 acres. There are some 1,952 cane farms.

Other agricultural production is valued at about £1,800,000 annually. The approximate annual value of butter, cheese, and milk production is £50,000.

There is no more progressive area in Queensland than Mackay and District nor any with a brighter future. Under sunny skies the visitor will find a province of great richness and scenery of surprising beauty and variety.



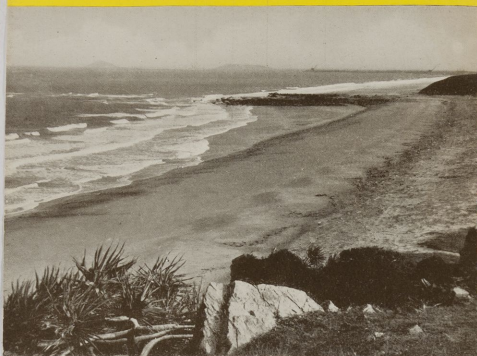
THE story of the development of Mackay is an absorbing one. Captain Mackay left Armidale on 16th January, 1860, with a party of seven men and twenty-eight horses to explore the northern country for "runs" for stocking purposes. They travelled by Tenterfield, Darling Downs, Gayndah, and Rockhampton, where, after recruiting and refitting, they continued again on 16th March. They left civilisation behind them at Marlborough, and bearing to the north-west over the rugged and broken ranges followed the Isaacs River and travelled on towards the Burdekin. Near the coast they found a river which they called the Mackay, and after tracing it to the sea, decided to return south, having been successful in their expedition. Suffering sickness and privations, they reached Rockhampton after four months' absence and tendered for the country they had discovered, in accordance with the Crown Land Regulations. The tenders were accepted by the Queensland Government and they were allowed nine months for stocking. To obtain some benefit from his discovery, Captain Mackay purchased cattle and started from Armidale on 26th July, 1861, with 1,200 cattle, 50 horses, and two teams of bullocks. After great hardships the stock arrived at the spot selected for the head station on the Mackay River on 11th January, 1862.



THE name of the river was subsequently changed to the Pioneer, as Commodore Burnett had in 1863 named a stream flowing into Rockingham Bay the Mackay, and recommended that the new discovery should be called after H.M.S. "Pioneer" which he commanded. The Queensland Government, however, not wishing to detract from the merit of Captain Mackay's discovery, named the town after him.



ENCHANTED WATERWAYS AND MIST-CROWNED RANGES



Ocean Beach near Slade Point

EVER-COOL EUNGELLA RANGE

MACKAY is fortunate in possessing an easily accessible mountain resort some 50 miles from the coast—a wonderland of forests and vine-jungles at an altitude of about 3,000 feet.

The sun-shot road through the Pioneer Valley to the crest of the Eungella Range—"Land of the Clouds"—never fails to enchant the visitor. A well appointed chalet is situated on the eastern fall of the range at Dalrymple Heights (2,200 feet) overlooking the Pioneer Valley, and a serried array of ranges. Marian, one of the townships nestling amid surging plantations of sugar-cane in the valley, was for many years the home of Helen Porter Mitchell, who was to become the "Queen of Song"—Dame Nellie Melba.

On the rugged tableland is an excellent network of access roads constructed for the use of farmers, dairymen and timber-getters. The drive for many miles around "The Circle" in the Crediton area is most interesting. At one section the road winds through an extensive grove of beautiful fan-palms. Delightful trips can be made by horseback or car to the various lookout points along the edge of the range in the old and new Dalrymple areas and in the Crediton country. Dalrymple Heights Lookout provides an unsurpassed view of the Pioneer Valley and chequered farmlands. Wide panoramas also unfold from Mount William, Mount Henry, and Peak Henry (4,126 feet) from Bevan Palm and Pease Lookouts, and a magnificent view of the wildly contorted country to the west is obtained from eminences along the new Dalrymple roads. A track leads along the range to Mount Dalrymple (4,250 feet), but it is as yet very rough.

Picnic spots include the swimming pool at the Broken River bridge, the Wishing Pool, Crediton, Pla and Bee Creeks, and further afield Haslewood Creek, the Canyon, and other places of interest.

The bird and plant life on the Eungella Plateau is outstanding. The tropical splendour of the vegetation is seen to advantage along the old Eungella mining road and many of the recently opened access roads.

Around Eungella is woven a romance of the early goldfield days. Gone is the frenzied activity of the 5,000 diggers who flocked to the field in 1886 when a rich pocket was opened in the Orchid mine. The five crazy pubs and the red cedar humpies have long since disappeared. But there still remains the old water-wheel and the battery at the "Diggings." Now only a few old prospectors fossick for the precious metal in the Broken River.

Eungella Range, with its tropic splendour and glorious climate, is unquestionably one of the most attractive upland resorts in North Queensland. Access is by road or rail to Netherdale (45 miles) and then by service car (4½ miles) to the chalet.

On the road to Eungella, showing Pioneer Valley



AN ISLAND-STUDDED SEABOARD

THERE are several pretty seaside resorts within easy distance of Mackay which offer excellent opportunities for bathing and fishing.

Town and Far beaches are a little south of the Pioneer estuary. To the north are Eimeo, the most popular beach, some 11 miles distant. Seaview, Slade Point and other strands extending to Seaforth and Newry Harbour, with its groups and clusters of isles. The trip to Seaforth and Newry Harbour by way of Farleigh and Mount Jukes Valleys, both intensively cultivated with sugar-cane, is one of the most interesting in the district. There are also many pretty spots along the reaches of the Pioneer River and among the foothills of Clarke Range.

An impressive seascape is obtained from the bluffs at Eimeo. On a clear day many of the islands comprising the Cumberland Group can be seen—Brampton, Carlisle, Keswick, St. Be's, Cockermouth, Penrith, Scawfell, and Calder. Further north is Lindeman Island, near the entrance to Whitsunday Passage.

Lindeman Island is one of the most beautiful of the island resorts within the regions of the Great Barrier Reefs. It is 3 square miles in area, rises to 712 feet, and is indented by a series of pretty shell-strewn coves. The panorama from Mount Olden, embracing about 70 islands of the famous Whitsunday archipelago, is one of unsurpassed loveliness. Coral reefs fringe portion of the island, affording unlimited pleasure for the naturalist and fossicker. The beautiful coral formations can be examined by drifting over the reefs at low tide and gazing through glass-bottomed floats. Most of the marine fauna of the Outer Barrier is to be found on these fringing reefs.

Eimeo Beach



The Swimming Pool, Broken River



Morning mists, Eungella Range



ANGLING for medium game-fish and reef-feeders, bathing in tonic, winterless waters, cruising among the thronging islands, and aquaplaning in sheltered bays are among the numerous pastimes to be enjoyed while holidaying on Lindeman Island. Access is by steamer, or by rail to Mackay and then by road to Seaforth, where visitors connect with a launch.

Brampton Island is also a popular holiday resort with Mackay people. Accommodation is provided in cabins, which hide among the largest grove of coconut palms along the Queensland coast.

Conditions are ideal for a quiet care-free holiday. Bathing, fishing, boating, fossicking on the coral reefs, climbing the forested heights, or wild pig hunting are among the numerous pastimes.

A NATIVE LEGEND

THERE is a delightful aboriginal legend woven around the beautiful Pioneer Valley and Eungella Range.

It is said that away back in the morning of the world, the alkarina times, the Valley of Changing Lights and Shades was the place where the powerful and kindly Larraikin blackfellows sat down. Game and fish abounded in the lush meadows and singing streams of the valley, and the fragrant air resounded with the happy laughter of the little birrales. The country was sometimes called Eimbimba, for that meant "the place of many birds."

Then one day Korinya, who was always walking about seeing strange lands and hearing strange things, came back to the tribes after a long walk about with a wonderful tale about Eungella—the Mountain of Mists, or Land of the Clouds.

By the camp fire that night he told how he had braved the minggahs, the spirit-haunted trees, and binaginbil, the place of leeches, and at last scaled the mountain wall and reached the top.

But, as he was looking for a way across the range, Woore, the evil spirit, sent Ho-too-worry the clouds to hinder him. Korinya could not see his shield before his face, so thick was the mountain mist, and was frightened, for he thought he would be killed by the murra-murras, the primitive blackfellows without proper faces, who were lurking all around him.

In desperation he called loudly to the great Byamee, father of all the aborigines, for help. And the third time he called Byamee heard, and sent Douran-Douran, the north wind, who chased Ho-too-worry away from the mountain. Korinya was thus able to see where he was going, and quickly descended to the valley and his tribe.



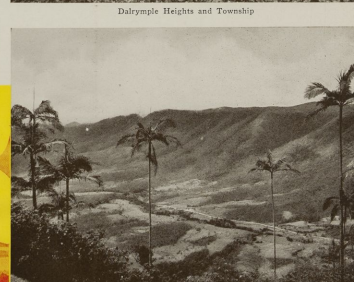
Coconut palms at Seaforth



Dalrymple Heights and Township



Clicker Tropical Rain Forest, Eungella Range
Below: Farleigh Sugar Mill and cane farms



From Pease Lookout, Eungella Range

AND even to this day, as in far-off alkarina times, Ho-too-worry hurries to Eungella at evenfall, spreading his billowing clouds far across the great valley and just near the chalet is chased away by Douran-Douran.



Cane-sugar fields at Farleigh

TRAVEL SERVICE

THE Queensland Government Tourist Bureau offers a complete travel service for tourists, and for this purpose maintains offices at Perth, Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane, Rockhampton, Townsville, and Cairns.

Further information concerning Mackay and District, means of access, cost of transportation thereto, and accommodation tariffs may be obtained from the offices mentioned. Itineraries will be planned, and inclusive tours arranged with transportation by any desired route. A cordial invitation is extended to you to use this free service.

Descriptive literature on other Queensland tourist resorts is available on application.

FOR INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS CONSULT

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU

ADELAIDE STREET, BRISBANE

17 Martin Place
SYDNEY

303 Collins Street
MELBOURNE

Plaza Arcade
PERTH

99 Macquarie Street
HOBART

THOMAS GILBERT HOPE, Acting Government Printer, Brisbane.